

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Page 1, line 1: Description

[0017] Fig. 5 is a side cross-sectional view of the cutter tooth of Fig. 4 taken along line 5-5.

[0019] Referring now to the drawings, in which like numbers refer to like elements throughout the several views, Fig. 1 shows a typical tip shrouded turbine bucket 10. The turbine bucket 10 includes an airfoil 12. The airfoil 12 is the active component that intercepts the flow of gases and acts as a windmill ~~vain~~ vane to convert the energy of the gases into tangential motion. This motion in turn rotates the rotor to which the buckets 10 are attached.

[0026] The base portion 180 of the first cutter tooth 150 may extend in a direction perpendicular to the seal rail 130 of about 0.56 to about 0.58 inches (about 14.22 to about 14.73 millimeters) while the base portion 180 of the second cutter tooth 160 may only extend about 0.45 to about 0.47 inches (about 11.43 to about 11.99 millimeters). The base portion 180 of both cutter teeth 150, 160 may have a width (along the direction of the seal rail 130) that extends from about 0.5 to about 0.52 inches (about 12.7 to about

13.21 millimeters) to about 0.30 to about 0.32 inches (about 7.62 to about 8.13 millimeters) near the top portion 170.

[0027] This configuration may be used for the second stage bucket of a "9FA+e" turbine sold by the General Electric Company of Schenectady, New York OLE_LINK1 under the designation "9FA+e". The configuration provides a tip shroud 120 with a more symmetrical design so as to reduce the stress on the tip shroud 120 as a whole and the fillet below the shroud 120, if one is present. The configuration also should increase the overall lifetime of the various parts.

[0028] Fig. 6 shows a similar design, in this case a turbine bucket 200 for the second stage bucket of a "7FA+e" turbine sold by the General Electric Company of Schenectady, New York under the designation "7FA+e". The turbine bucket 200 may have an airfoil 210 with a tip shroud 220 and a seal rail 230. The tip shroud 220 may have somewhat different dimensions from those described above with the tip shroud 120.

[0031] The base portion 280 of the first cutter tooth 250 may extend in a direction perpendicular to the seal rail 230 by about 0.56 to about 0.580 inches (about 14.22 to about 14.73 millimeters) while the base portion 280 of the second cutter tooth 260 may only extend about 0.45 to about 0.47 inches (about 11.43 to about 11.99 millimeters). The base portion 280 of both cutter teeth 250, 260 may have a width (along the direction of the seal rail 230 that extends from about 0.50 to 0.52 inches (about 12.7 to about 13.21 millimeters) to about 0.30 to about 0.32 inches (about 7.62 to about 8.19 millimeters)

near the top portion 270. The built up area 290 may have of width of about 0.6 to about 0.7 inches (about 15.24 to about 17.78 millimeters).